Information Services Board Presentation on the State Interoperability Executive Committee

Prepared by Dennis Hausman, DIS/MOSTD (360) 902-3463.

Presenter

Lowell Porter, Chairman, State Interoperability Executive Committee

Purpose of Appearance

The SIEC will provide the Board with an update on the progress of the final statewide public safety communications plan and ask the Board to allow the SIEC to submit the Final Plan to the legislature in compliance with Chapter 43.105 RCW.

Previous ISB Appearance

September 9, 2004: The SIEC Chairman briefed the board on the SIEC's progress, requested approval of three nominees to the SIEC and requested approval of the SIEC *Interim Statewide Public Safety Communications Systems Plan* and the *Inventory of Statewide Public Safety Communications Systems Phase 1 Report.*

Recommendation to the Board

As the ISB will not be meeting prior to the end of 2004, ISB staff recommends that the Board allow the SIEC to complete the Final Interoperability Plan and submit it to the Legislature and the Board in compliance with the statutory December 31, 2004 deadline.

Information Services Board State Interoperability Executive Committee Update
Prepared by Dennis Hausman, DIS/MOSTD, (360) 902-3463.

Description
Briefing book update on the activities of the ISB State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC).

Committee Membership

Lowell Porter (Chair),
Chief, Washington State Patrol

Tom Griffith, Director, Clark County Regional Emergency Services Agency

Timothy Lowenberg, Major General and Director of the Washington Military Department

James M. Broman (Vice-Chair), Fire Chief, City of Lacey, President Washington State Fire Chiefs Association

Ken Irwin, Sheriff, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

Michael McVicker, Interim Director, Washington State Department of Information Services

John Conrad, Assistant Secretary, Washington State Department of Transportation

Alan Komenski, Association of Washington Cities

Jim Mullen, Director, Washington Emergency Management Division

The Honorable Mike Doherty, Washington Association of Counties

Mark Kahley, Washington Department of Natural Resources

David Stern, Chief of Police, Association of Washington Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

Vacant, Washington State Fire Marshal

Background Information
At its September 9, 2004 meeting, the ISB approved a schedule allowing the SIEC to present a final statewide public safety communications plan (final plan) to the Legislature in accordance with the statutory December 31, 2004 deadline. Since that time, the SIEC has taken the following steps:

1. **Contracted with Federal Engineering, Inc.**
   The Department of Information Services, on behalf of the SIEC, entered into a contract with Federal Engineering, Inc. (FE), to provide assistance with the development and publication of the final plan. FE will work with SIEC staff to develop a plan that considers all inventory data gathered to date, and builds upon the *Interim Statewide Public Safety Communications Systems Plan* delivered to the Legislature on March 30, 2004.

2. **Gathered input and conducted interviews**
   Federal Engineering, Inc, in coordination with SIEC staff, has invested a considerable amount of time to gather input from key executives and local government officials. These activities include:
   - Informational Forums: Forums have been conducted in each of Washington's nine Department of Homeland Security regions to articulate the vision and goals of the SIEC

and to solicit comments and input that will feed the recommendations contained in the final plan.

- SIEC Interviews: Interviews with available SIEC members were conducted to ensure that their views and input were incorporated early in the process.

- Technical Expert Interviews: Interviews were conducted with key technical personnel from state and local government to ensure the recommendations contained in the final plan are technically sound and can build upon existing communications systems technology.

3. **Initiated a rigorous drafting and review process**
   To ensure that valuable input and feedback is captured early and often, the SIEC has embarked on a final plan drafting process intended to produce the highest quality product possible. Milestones in the final plan creation process include:

Present detailed outline of final plan to SIEC Advisory Workgroup (SAW) for review and input	Completed October 27, 2004
Present first draft to SAW for review and input	Completed November 10, 2004
Present second draft to SIEC for review and input	December 1, 2004
Present final draft to SIEC for final review and input	December 13, 2004
Provide final version to State Printer for publishing	December 20, 2004

Final Plan Content
The final plan will provide a comprehensive description of the state of interoperability in Washington today, and provide recommendations and steps Washington can take to enhance interoperability in the future. At a minimum, the final plan will:

- Describe the methodology used to gather information, analyze the various sources of inputs, and develop conclusions and recommendations.

- Describe the current level of interoperability across the state.

- Outline the technical, operational, and process issues that are hindering interoperability across the state.

- Discuss the technologies that are currently available for use in the public safety mobile communications market, as well as those emerging technologies that could be effectively deployed to promote interoperability.

- Discuss various models of governance that are in use in Washington and other states, and identify more effective ways to engage the various stakeholders (particularly tribal and local agencies) in the overall governance process.

- Discuss various funding mechanisms that are in use within Washington and other states in support of public safety mobile communications systems, and identify additional funding methods that Washington might consider in support of public safety mobile communications projects.

- Identify the major stakeholder issues and themes that were raised in the various interview processes and discuss ways to mitigate them.

- Outline the high-level technology architecture that the state should move towards in order to improve the level of interoperability across the state.

- Identify the major goals and the benchmarks that will be used to monitor interoperability improvement.

Next SIEC Meeting:
Scheduled for December 1, 2004.

URL for Committee Web Site:
http://siec.wa.gov